

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 THE HA 05693 230716Z

21/51

ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 SY-04 USSS-00 INRE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 WRD-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 IO-10 DOTE-00 FAA-00 EB-07

CCO-00 OC-01 /083 W

----- 085543

O 221722Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4764

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5693

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION OF PARA 4 AND 5 BY
DRAFTING OFFICE)

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH CONNECTION WITH LATEST HIJACKING
INCIDENT

REF: STATE 257926

1. AMB. SCHELTEMA, SENIOR FONOFF OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE
FOR HANDLING TERRORIST INCIDENTS, GAVE DCM HIS
PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON LATEST HIJACKING INCIDENT AS
OF MID-AFTERNOON NOV 22. PIECING TOGETHER VARIOUS NEWS
AGENCY TICKERS, SCHELTEMA SAID HIJACKERS, NUMBERING TWO
OR PERHAPS MORE, HAD IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS MEMBERS
OF THE MARTYR AHMED ABDUL GHAF FOUR GROUP. THE LATTER
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 THE HA 05693 230716Z

IS REPORTEDLY AN AFFILIATE OF THE ARAB NATIONALIST YOUTH
FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE. HIJACKERS, WITH SOME

FORTY PASSENGERS ABOARD HAD LANDED THE BRITISH AIRWAYS VC-10 AIRCRAFT AT TUNIS AIRPORT EARLIER IN THE AFTERNOON. THEY WERE DEMANDING THE RELEASE OF THE 13 PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS, NOW IN EGYPTIAN CUSTODY, RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF AMB. NOEL AND COUNSELOR MOORE, AND OF THE TWO TERRORISTS WHO FAILED IN THEIR ATTEMPT LAST MONTH TO FORCE THEIR WAY OUT OF IMPRISONMENT IN THE HAGUE. THE LATTER TWO TERRORISTS ARE AVOWED MEMBERS OF THE ARAB NATIONAL YOUTH FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE.

2. SCHELTEMA HAD NOT YET RECEIVED ANY TELEGRAMS OR OTHER REPORTS FROM THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY IN TUNIS BUT SAID HE SAW NO REASON TO DOUBT THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE TERRORISTS' DEMANDS AS REPORTED BY PRESS TICKERS. HE HAD BEEN DIRECTED BY HIS SUPERIORS TO ACTIVATE THE FONOFF'S CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER, TO BE MANNED BY HIM AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS ON A ROTATING BASIS AS FROM 6:00 P.M. NOV. 22 (LOCAL TIME). SCHELTEMA REFERRED TO STATEMENT BY FONOFF PRESS SPOKESMAN THAT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, NOW IN ITS REGULAR FRIDAY SESSION, WAS DEALING WITH THE MATTER, BUT SCHELTEMA WAS NOT INFORMED ON ANY DETAILS. HE ASSUMED THAT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WAS WORKING ON THE BASIS OF THE SAME SEMI-FRAGMENTED NEWS TICKER INFORMATION AS HE WAS AND DOUBTED THEREFORE WHETHER THEY WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO REACH ANY DECISIONS QUICKLY.

3. DCM SAID HE HAD NOT YET HEARD FROM WASHINGTON (REFTEL WAS RECEIVED AFTER DCM RETURNED TO THE EMBASSY), BUT PROMISED TO STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH SCHELTEMA TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION. IN ANSWER TO SCHELTEMA'S QUESTION, DCM STATED THAT USG AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE WAS OPPOSED TO SUBMITTING TO DEMANDS AND THREATS OF TERRORISTS. DCM RECALLED USG'S STRONG REACTION TO RELEASE OF MURDERERS OF US DIPLOMATS IN KHARTOUM AND BELIEVED THAT WASHINGTON WOULD BE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH HOW THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT HANDLED THE DEMAND FOR THEIR RELEASE.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 THE HA 05693 230716Z

4. ACCORDING TO ONE TICKER, TERRORISTS THREATENED TO KILL DUTCH, BELGIAN AND LUXEMBURG PASSENGERS IF THEIR DEMANDS WERE NOT MET. SCHELTEMA HAD NO CONFIRMATION, HOWEVER, OF ANY DUTCH NATIONALS ON BOARD.

5. ANY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAMS BETWEEN 1800Z AND 0600Z SHOULD BE SENT AS IMMEDIATE NIACT.
GOULD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, HOSTAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974THEHA05693
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740339-0403, D740340-0289
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741118/aaaaapak.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCCT
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 257926
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DUTCH CONNECTION WITH LATEST HIJACKING INCIDENT
TAGS: PINS, NL, TS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005